# IRONDALE NEWSLETTER

Produced by the Bark Lake Cultural Developments

October / November 2020

**Bark Lake Cultural Developments**

Charitable No.
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Incorporation No.
1871121

Historical
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Host your next function at Irondale's heritage church

Rental Information & Newsletter Editor
Carol 705-457-8438

**Irondale Community Centre**

Advisory Committee
of
Minden Hills Council

centre@IrondaleOntario.ca

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## The Canadian Northern Railway, Pioneer Road of the Northern Prairies, 1895-1918

**A second Ontario line acquired by Mackenzie & Mann was the Irondale, Bancroft and Ottawa Railway in southeastern Ontario.** This railway, originally incorporated as the Toronto and Nipissing Eastern Extensions Railway, was authorized to build from a point on the Toronto and Nipissing Eastern Railway's line through Victoria, Peterborough, and Hastings counties to the Ottawa River. In the 1880s it built about 45 miles of track in the area north of Peterborough and Belleville, but ran into serious financial difficulties in the 1890s. Fortunately the solicitor, Z.A. Lash, stepped up with substantial advances. These advances were initially made in order that the railway might earn its subsidy from the federal government. The subsidy, however, proved inadequate to meet the railway's obligations, and in 1894 the finances of the company were reorganized. The authorized capitalization was increased from $100,000 to $2,500,000, but only 535 shares valued at $100 each were issued. Four hundred and eighty-five of these came into the possession of the railway's president & chief promoter, C.J. Pusey. Pusey died in 1899 and his shares were taken over by his and the railway's chief creditors, Z. A. Lash and J. H. Plummer. These men already held $450,000 of virtually unsalable first-mortgage bonds and various other short-term notes of the railway with a face value of $374,324.68. A few years later Lash acquired Plummer's interest, thus becoming virtually the sole owner and creditor of the railway.

Lash retained personal control of the moribund line until 1909, when he sold his interests to Mackenzie, Mann and Co. Ltd. At the time Mackenzie still thought in terms of a separate company to build or control the Toronto-Ottawa lines, of which the Irondale, Bancroft and Ottawa Railway (I.B.&O) was to be a part. The Ontario and Ottawa Railway was incorporated for this purpose and Mackenzie and Mann sold the I.B.&O. Railway to the new road. Subsequently it was decided that all the Toronto-Ottawa mileage should be financed as part of the Canadian Northern Ontario Railway system, and the Ontario and Ottawa Railway remained little more than the old Irondale, Bancroft and Ottawa Railway, with some powers it never exercised to acquire other lines. It was formally merged with the Canadian Northern Railway System in 1914.

*see page two for Table X - Operating Statistics for I.B.& O.

*Excerpt taken from pgs 270-272 The Canadian Northern Railway, Pioneer Road of the Northern Prairies, 1895-1918, authored by T.D. Regehr, printed in 1976. The book used footnotes to references the many sources of information*

**Special Features -**

- to remember our Lost, pg 2
- to acknowledge November 11, contemplate some of Canada's Military Milestones, pgs 2 & 3
- Gary Blundell's Navigations of Iron tour, pg 4
- Big BOOK NOOK news, pg 3
- Family Feud & Sudoku, pg 4

Bette Patricia Witham
mother of Susan Thompson
~ Sept 7, 2020 ~

Patrick J. Morin
Sept 14, 2020
brother of Jacqueline Proud

*Our condolences to the families and friends of those we lost.*

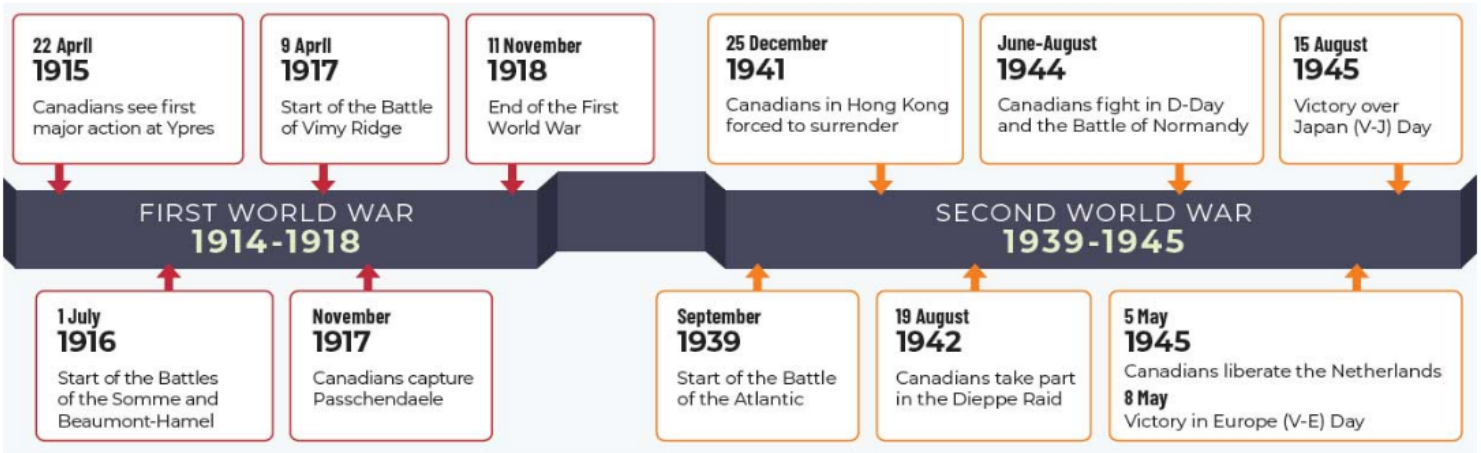
TABLE X

Operating Statistics of the Irondale, Bancroft and Ottawa railway

| *Year* | *Mileage operated* | *Gross earnings* | *Operating costs* | *Net earnings* | *Net corporate profit or loss* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | ($) | ($) | ($) | ($) |
| 1896 | 45 | 14,767.11 | 7,038.31 | 7,728.80 | |
| 1897 | 45 | 11,283.43 | 9,975.80 | 1,307.63 | |
| 1898 | 48 | 12,905.57 | 10,559.90 | 2,345.67 | |
| 1899 | 48 | 16,834.46 | 15,626.04 | 1,208.42 | |
| 1900 | 48 | 18,731.66 | 20,749.06 | -2,017.40 | |
| 1901 | 48 | 18,917.27 | 19,516.17 | -598.90 | |
| 1902 | 48 | 15,483.85 | 16,945.16 | -1,461.31 | |
| 1903 | 48 | 21,464.17 | 22,016.27 | -552.10 | |
| 1904 | 48 | 21,702.19 | 25,142.07 | -3,429.88 | |
| 1905 | 48 | 25,803.95 | 25,367.95 | 436.00 | |
| 1906 | 48 | 32,924.05 | 34,897.60 | -1,973.55 | |
| 1907 | 49 | 31,685.56 | 31,188.44 | 497.12 | 341.31 |
| 1908 | 49 | 25,177.96 | 28,507.44 | -1,973.55 | -3,329.48 |
| 1909 | 49 | 26,958.44 | 32,977.80 | -6,019.36 | -6,019.36 |
| 1910 | 49 | 27,090.53 | 30,402.40 | -2,411.87 | -3,532.50 |
| 1911 | 52 | 26,042.29 | 24,762.83 | 1,279.46 | -567.22 |
| 1912 | 52 | 26,830.46 | 22,853.40 | 3,527.06 | 1,287.33 |
| 1913 | 52 | 30,384.76 | 23,967.97 | 6,416.79 | 3,479.42 |
| 1914 | 52 | 32,332.88 | 36,506.28 | -4,173.40 | -5,110.46 |

Source: The Public Archives of Canada, R,G,46. No interest was paid throughout this period on the outstanding bonds of the company. All these bonds were held by people closely associated with the Canadian Northern Railway. Equipment rentals and interest on short term loans not directly associated with operations were deducted from net earnings to arrive at the figure for net corporate profit or loss.

## Some Canadian military milestones

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## FURNACE FALLS GETS MAIL SERVICE

Post Office Inspector's Office
Kingston, 7th Dec 1883

Sir,

I have to report that the new post office at Furnace Falls, County of Victoria N.A. authorizes in your letter No: 403 of 25th Oct last was opened on 1st Mar with Mr John C. Parry as Postmaster.

For the service of Furnace Falls, I have made an agreement with Mr Parry subject to your approval. The office is one quarter of a mile off the direct mail route between Kinmount and Gooderham (called the Monk Road), and I have arranged that the Courier from Furnace Falls shall meet the mails twice per week paying to and from Kinmount (on the Monk Road) at a cost of $20 per annum.

The price is very reasonable and lower than any one else would undertake the work for.

The Agreement is to remain in force until 31 March '86 when the contract for the Gooderham and Kinmount Service will expire. The Service of Furnace Falls can probably be included in the new contract for the Gooderham Service.

Your Able Servant
Gilbert Griffin
P.O. Inspector

## FURNACE FALLS LOSES POST OFFICE

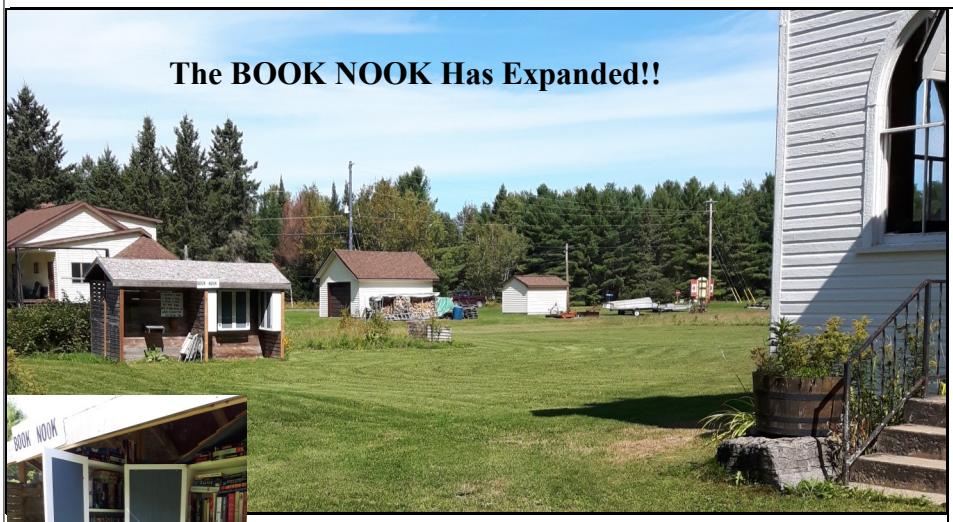
Post Office Inspector's Office
Kingston, 19th Dec 1885

Sir,

I am to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 2nd inst No 891 directing me to obtain a new Bond from Mr. J. C. Parry , Postmaster Furnace Falls, County of Victoria, N.R.

Mr. Parry has moved to Chicago - the services having been closed up - and there being no business done there now, and no necessity for a Post Office, I have to recommend that you will authorize the closing of the office.

Your Able Servant
Gilbert Griffin
P.O. Inspector



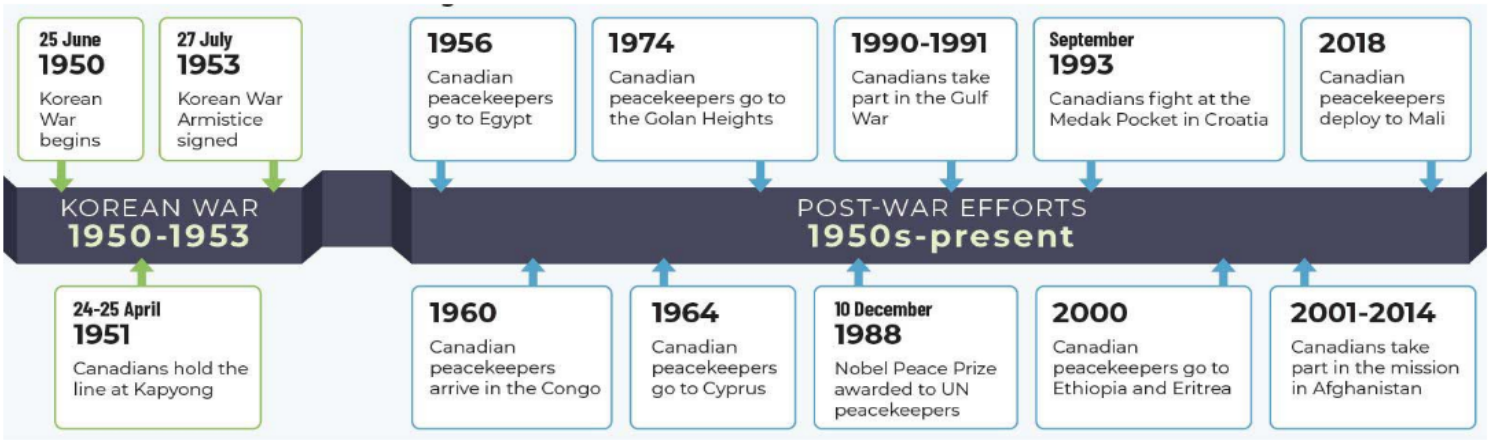
You will find the BOOK NOOK cupboards in the shelter next to the garden - - -
operated until end of October (or once the snow falls)

**The BOOK NOOK** now has three cupboards offering DVDs and VCR movies as well as books.
A quick glance shows some real classics and popular titles.
Most genres are available.

As the sign says
*"Borrow a Book, Trade a Book, Leave a Book, All are Free, but if you wish to leave a donation - We Thank You."*

***Watch for BIG BOOK SALE on Thanksgiving Weekend - 7057 County Rd 503 - weather permitting***
***Great deals to be had***

## Some Canadian military milestones

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## Gary Blundell's Navigations of Iron Tour - Sept 12, 2020

Gary Blundell speaks to his guests about the demise of the iron operation and how they built up a section of the shoreline to support a move to transporting logs rather than ore.

At the old smelter at Furnace Falls, Guy Scott talked about the building of the smelter and the community that built up around it that was all destroyed in a big forest fire before it was even able to be used.

The church was the first stop after lunch. Carol Simmons gave a talk on the step to provide the history of the building and then everyone had a chance to enter the building, pandemic-style.

The tour finished at Howland Junction, and some participants proceeded to the Agnes Jamieson Gallery in Minden where Gary Blundell's artwork depicted what they saw on the tour.

More of Gary Blundell's artwork can be found at www.hotspurstudios.com

For more information refer to the August/September 2020 issue of the Irondale newsletter.

### Family Feud Questions

One hundred people surveyed. Top answer to the following questions is …

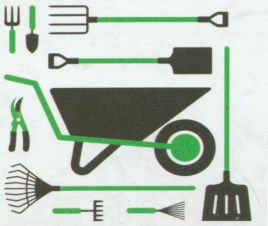
1. Where might you hide something you wanted to smuggle into prison?
2. On which topic might a father give advice to his son?
3. Name something a person on a diet might order at a restaurant.
4. How many hours of sleep do you need each night to feel awake the next day?
5. Name a language that makes anything sound sexy.

How did you do?

Answers next issue.

### Sudoku—test your brain

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 6 | | | 3 | | | | |
| 4 | 2 | | 5 | | | | 3 | |
| 5 | | 3 | | | 9 | 2 | | |
| 7 | | 6 | | 2 | | | | |
| | | | 3 | | 4 | | | |
| | | | | 9 | | 1 | | 6 |
| | | 9 | 2 | | | 8 | | 7 |
| | 4 | | | | 7 | | 2 | 9 |
| | | | | 1 | | | 5 | |



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MINDEN

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J & D
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# www.IrondaleOntario.ca

# ~ Irondale Calendar of Events ~

Hang this page on your refrigerator or next to your calendar so you don't miss out!

| 2020 | Unless otherwise noted - Tickets available online at www.IrondaleOntario.ca or call/text 705-457-8438 |
|---|---|
| **Sat. Nov 7** | **We certainly hope to offer this event - only the pandemic knows for sure. Please watch our Facebook page and website for up to date information.** **Themed Dinner** held at the Irondale Community Centre. Dinner served from 5 pm til 7pm as long as supplies last. $20 pp Menu still being planned. *You certainly shouldn't go away hungry! Bark Lake Cultural Developments (BLCD) event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.* |
| **2021** | **PLANS HAVE TO BE MADE — HERE'S HOPING 2021 IS BEST YEAR YET** |
| **Sat. Feb 20** | **Dinner** held at the Irondale Community Centre. Dinner served from 5pm to 7pm—as long as supplies last. *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.* |
| **Sat. Apr 17** | **Fish 'N Fowl Dinner** held at the Gooderham Community Centre. Doors open 5pm. Dinner at 6pm. Fish, turkey, potatoes, vegetables, salad & dessert. Loonie auction action after dessert. $20 pp *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.* |
| **Sun. May 1** | **First Church Service -** 10 am. Come as you are. **Book Nook Opening -** 11 am to 1 pm - no charge so help yourself to refreshments, books, videos, puzzles … |
| **Sat. July 3 or 10** | **Concert on the Lake** - Great music from the comfort of your own boat, canoe or paddleboard. Music starts at 6:30pm Check *www.sdlca.ca* for more details. |
| **Sat. July 17** | **Wild Game Dinner** - Popular dinner, held at the Gooderham Community Centre. Doors open 5pm, buffet at 6pm. All game served as bite size pieces so you can sample it all. Remember to bring loonies for after dinner fun. **PLEASE NOTE NEW LOCATION FOR THIS DINNER** *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.* |
| **Sat. July 31** | Salerno Devil's Lake Cottage Association's (SDLCA) AGM, 10 am at the Irondale Community Centre check www.sdlca.ca for more details. |
| **Sun. Aug 1** | SDLCA Canoe Race, BBQ and Children's Games check www.sdlca.ca for more details. |
| **Mid August** | **Irondale Inspirations -** the artists that call Irondale home will be showcasing their work at the historical Irondale church. 10 am to 4pm. Please drop by; you may just catch one or more of them creating on site. |
| **Sat. Sept 25** | **Family Harvest Festival** - 11 to 4pm - Vendors, BBQ, displays, tours—all on the property of Irondale's historical church building. NO ADMISSION CHARGED. Hike Haliburton tour starts & ends here as well. *B.L.C.D. event* |
| **Sat. Nov 9** | **Themed Dinner** held at the Irondale Community Centre. Dinner served from 5 pm til 7pm as long as supplies last. $20 pp Menu still being planned. *You certainly shouldn't go away hungry! B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.* |

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**Irondale Events are advertised in these local papers, available at most stores across the county.**

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The Times MINDEN ONTARIO

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